

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT M 01407 280708Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02 /066 W  
-----123800 280745Z /11

R 280620Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3620  
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
CINCPAC HONOLULU

UNCLAS PORT MORESBY 1407

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINS, ID, PP  
SUBJECT: WEST IRIAN REFUGEES CONTINUE TO ARRIVE

1. FONMIN OLEWALE TOLD PRESS CONFERENCE AUG 25 THAT THIRTEEN IRIAN JAYA "FREEDOM FIGHTERS," MEMBERS OF PRAI'S MILITARY ARM, TEPENAL, HAD CROSSED INTO PNG FEW DAYS BEFORE. ACCORDING PRESS REPORT, OLEWALE SAID GROUP, WHICH INCLUDED TWO MAJORS AND A CAPTAIN, HAD REQUESTED POLITICAL ASYLUM. DECISION ON REQUEST WILL AWAIT OLEWALE'S RETURN SEPT 9.

2. OLEWALE ALSO TOLD PRESS 700 VILLAGERS ENTERED PNG AUG 24, ALLEGEDLY FEARING PUNITIVE INDONESIAN ACTION BECAUSE PRAI HAD RECENTLY BEEN IN THEIR VILLAGES. 180 MORE WERE REPORTED TO BE PREPARING TO CROSS TO INMONDA, THE VILLAGE 20 KMS EAST OF THE BORDER WHERE THE 700 HAD GONE.

3. EMBASSY HAS POUCHED TO EA/PIA DETAILS ON A UNHCR CONTRIBUTION OF US \$100,000 TO PREPARE A REFUGEE CAMP AT OKSAPMIN, 145 KMS EAST OF IRIAN JAYA BORDER. GPNG AND UNHCR WILL "BE JOINTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CAMP."  
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4. COMMENT: DESPITE THE REDUCTION IN MILITARY ACTIVITY, THE REFUGEE PROBLEM APPEARS TO BE GROWING. A FEW WEEKS AGO A GPNG SPOKESMAN SAID REFUGEE CARE WAS COSTING IT K1,000 (US \$1,450) A DAY, A SUM IT ILL-PREPARED TO PAY. UNHCR FUNDS WILL HELP BUT WILL PROVIDE LITTLE MORE THAN A STOPGAP IF FLOW CONTINUES.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, POLITICAL ASYLUM  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PORTM01407  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014